

In concert with the resources being delivered by the bipartisan infrastructure law, providing new dedicated funding would help kickstart existing interest in reducing carbon footprint and improving the energy resiliency at airports.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bill to create a new FAA grant program to help airports invest in renewable generation resources such as solar panels, battery storage systems, and microgrids.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill to unlock the opportunity to leverage our Nation's airports to modernize our electric grid and implement clean energy technologies.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4740. A bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit the taking, importation, exportation, and breeding of certain cetaceans for public display, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of legislation that I introduced today along with Senators BOOKER, WYDEN, DUCKWORTH, PADILLA, and WARREN: the Strengthening Welfare in Marine Settings (SWIMS) Act. This is a companion to legislation introduced by Congressman ADAM SCHIFF in the House of Representatives.

Our bill would ban the importation and exportation of orcas, beluga whales, pilot whales, and false killer whales for public display, with an exception for animals being released to a marine sanctuary or back to the wild.

Our bill would also prohibit breeding captive whales to raise their newborns for public display, ensuring that the current generation of these whales in captivity would be the last.

The evidence is clear: Orcas, beluga whales, pilot whales, and false killer whales are intelligent and emotionally complex animals that cannot thrive in captivity. In the wild, these whales can travel up to 100 miles per day and dive hundreds of feet deep.

However, many animals in captivity live in tanks so small they cannot even turn around. Often, these whales are so stressed that they gnaw on the concrete walls of their tanks until the dental nerves of their teeth are exposed, permanently damaging their teeth and requiring constant antibiotics.

The inhumane confinement for these animals has consequences, which are made clear when news breaks of yet another whale dying well before its time. In the wild, the average orca lives for 40 years. Orcas in captivity in the United States typically live only 12 years. Although no orca has ever been documented attacking a human in the wild, in captivity, these whales have

been documented to lash out at their human trainers, causing severe harm or death.

Despite these well-established facts, more than 50 whales remain in captivity across the United States. My home State of California has already banned orca shows and breeding, and some exhibitors like SeaWorld have promised to end their orca breeding programs.

It is long past time for Federal Government to apply this policy to the whale species that suffer the most in captivity and end this cruel practice. Our bill, which is endorsed by 15 animal welfare organizations, would do just that.

Mr. President, by passing my bill, the Senate can prevent the needless suffering and deaths of these majestic animals who truly belong in the wild. I urge my colleagues to join us in co-sponsoring the SWIMS Act.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 4749. A bill to improve grants administered by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, when the Federal Government authorizes billions of dollars in grants to States, we have a duty to ensure that those dollars are spent in a responsible, effective manner. Accountability is essential to a healthy, functioning democracy.

And it is especially important when we discuss issues related to policing. In recent years, we have seen egregious instances of police misconduct, many of which have involved the unjustifiable deaths of Black people. Right now, it is vital that we prioritize initiatives that will improve public safety and strengthen public trust in law enforcement.

As mayor of Newark, I spent hundreds of hours with police officers riding along with them in their squad cars and learning about the daily challenges they face trying to make our communities safer. I have seen their bravery in the face of uncertainty and their fear knowing that their streets are filling up with deadly weapons of war. I have witnessed the enormous sacrifices they make in service of the public.

I have tremendous respect for our law enforcement officers, and I believe that they need support to be able to do their jobs effectively. I support improving officer training programs, hiring more officers in underresourced departments, and updating the outdated equipment law enforcement agencies are often left using.

Any resources provided, however, must be coupled with transparency. It flies in the face of responsible governance to invest significant resources into something without ever knowing what parts of that investment are paying dividends.

Transparency does not mean that every law enforcement program must

come under the Federal Government's close scrutiny. Instead, it means commonsense data collection and reporting. It means tracking how Federal funds are spent and whether they produce positive or negative outcomes.

It means doing basic due diligence for the purpose of improving policing in this country and ensuring that taxpayer dollars are being spent as effectively as possible.

As Congress moves to increase Federal assistance to State and local law enforcement agencies, we must ensure responsible administration and oversight of grant programs and ensure resources are directed toward policing practices that actually enhance public safety and promote the dignity of all communities, especially Black and Brown communities.

One of the biggest pools of funding for our Nation's law enforcement comes in the form of grants from the Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS, Office. The amount of money given to State and local law enforcement through these grants has steadily increased over the last few years, from \$222 million for fiscal year 2017 to \$512 million for fiscal year 2022.

These grants fund the improvement of Tribal law enforcement agencies, school violence prevention, drug crime enforcement, ari prevention, mental health and wellness services, equipment and technological capabilities, and community policing strategies.

All of these programs share the goal of improving public safety. Yet, despite the large increase in funding for the COPS grant program, Congress has not moved to measure the successes and failures of the program. As such, we cannot be sure that real improvements are actually being made with the more than half a billion dollars in taxpayer money being spent.

Reviewing how COPS grants are being spent and the outcomes they are producing will help realize the very goals that the COPS program aims to advance.

Ensuring that the Federal Government, through COPS grants, invests in best practices will help train officers in the most effective ways possible. Establishing performance metrics for COPS grants will allow law enforcement agencies to identify which initiatives make officers and the public safer and which reduce negative and dangerous interactions between law enforcement and the public.

As law enforcement agencies are called upon to bolster their data collection and reporting practices, it is also important to recognize that some agencies, particularly in underresourced communities, struggle to respond to those calls even with the availability of COPS grants. We must specifically dedicate more resources toward helping these law enforcement agencies meet these standards.

In particular, many law enforcement agencies have not been fully equipped to report data to the Federal Bureau of